

extension, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1205.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 14 and 16-19 to read as follows, and add Claims 26-31 to read as follows (a version of the amended claims, marked to show the changes thereto, is appended):

B' Sub 017 14. (Amended) A photovoltaic element encapsulated with an encapsulant resin, the encapsulant resin comprising an ultraviolet absorbing agent dissolved therein, wherein the dissolved ultraviolet absorbing agent has a concentration gradient in the direction of thickness of the encapsulant resin.

B2 16. (Amended) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 14, wherein the additive is at least one selected from a silane coupling agent and an ultraviolet absorbing agent.

17. (Amended) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 14, wherein the concentration of the additive is higher at a location near the semiconductor element but lower at a location remote from the semiconductor element.

B2
end

18. (Amended) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 14,
wherein the concentration of the additive is lower at a location near the semiconductor
element but higher at a location remote from the semiconductor element.

19. (Amended) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 14,
wherein the additive is an adhesive.

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5th

20. (New) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 14, wherein the
concentration of the ultraviolet absorbing agent is higher at a location near a light incident
surface of the encapsulant resin.

sub C27

27. (New) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 14 or 26, further
comprising a silane coupling agent dissolved in the encapsulant resin.

sub E7

28. (New) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 27, wherein the
concentration of the silane coupling agent is higher at a location near the photovoltaic
element.

29. (New) The photovoltaic element according to Claim 27, further
comprising a surface member provided on a surface of the encapsulant resin.